**County of San Diego** Revised: October 18, 1999 Reviewed: Spring 2003

> VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIAN AIDE VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIAN I VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIAN II VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIAN III **VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIAN IV**

Class No. 004759 Class No. 004760 Class No. 004761 Class No. 004762 Class No. 004766

#### **DEFINITION:**

To perform vector detection, prevention and control work for mosquitoes, rodents and other vectors within an assigned geographic or program area; and to perform related work as required.

## **DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:**

Positions in these classes are found in the Vector Surveillance and Control Division of the Department of Environmental Health.

### **Vector Control Technician Aide:**

This is the trainee level class in the Vector Control Technician series. Under immediate supervision, this class is responsible for learning to apply pesticides and acquire experience leading to State certification.

#### **Vector Control Technician I:**

This is the first working level class in the Vector Control Technician series. Under general supervision, this class has the appropriate California Department of Health Services vector control certifications and is responsible for the use of pesticides within the areas of certification, without immediate supervision. This class differs from the next lower level class, Vector Control Technician Aide, in that the latter is a trainee class whose incumbents have not yet obtained State certification.

# **Vector Control Technician II:**

This is the journey level class in the Vector Control Technician series. Under general supervision, this class is responsible for performing a full range of vector control work and possesses a California Department of Health certification in all areas of vector control.

# **Vector Control Technician III:**

This is the lead level class in the Vector Control Technician series. Under general direction, this class leads the work of lower class vector control technicians and may supervise in the absence of the Vector Control Technician IV. The Vector Control Technician III class is fully certified in vector control by the California Department of Health Services, and may be assigned a geographical district.

# **Vector Control Technician IV:**

This is the highest class in the Vector Control Technician series. Under direction, this class supervises, trains, and evaluates all lower Vector Control Technicians in either a major geographical section or program area, and ensures that employees are working within their areas of State certification and/or gaining the necessary experience and training

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required for State certification. This class is fully certified in vector control by the California Department of Health Services. This class differs from the next highest class, Vector Surveillance and Control Manager, in that the latter is a

section head responsible for the activities of professional and technical classes involved in the prevention and control of vector borne diseases.

#### **EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:**

Inspects and surveys a variety of properties, lands, and facilities to determine the presence of vectors such as mosquitoes, rodents, and other vectors; prepares, compiles and maintains vector breeding sources inventory, maps and records; searches land ownership, and plans and works with property owners, community groups, and environmental groups to prevent and control vectors; monitors progress of vector control efforts; responds to citizens' complaints and requests for vector control services; sprays, treats and baits to control invertebrate or vertebrate vectors using judgment in selecting appropriate materials and methods; conducts source reduction measures such as, ditching, draining and filling small bodies of standing water, and eliminating vegetation; writes request to comply notices and completes investigation and inspection forms; operates and maintains a variety of specialized vector control tools, equipment, and vehicles; enforces health codes pertaining to vector control.

## **Vector Control Technician III:**

All of the duties listed above and: Leads and oversees the work of a crew of Vector Control Technicians and Aides in special or difficult projects; supervises lower level classifications in the absence of the Vector Control Technician IV; maintains inventory of vector equipment and materials; routes and follows up on complaints and service requests; assists in providing community outreach and education in vector prevention and control; assists in surveillance of vector-borne diseases; assists in organizing and conducting major vector surveys; assists in overseeing vector control equipment calibration; assists in the maintenance of specialized vector control vehicles, tools and equipment; and provides training to lower level classifications.

### **Vector Control Technician IV:**

All of the duties listed above and: Plans, organizes and evaluates vector prevention, control and surveillance activities in a major section of the County or program area; assigns, directs, reviews and evaluates the work of subordinate staff involved in inspection and investigation of lands, and facilities to determine the presence of vectors such as mosquitoes and rodents; establishes and maintains standards of performance; organizes and supervises major vector surveys; supervises the selection, use and/or implementation of appropriate materials and methods to collect, prevent and control a variety of vectors; responsible for the vector breeding sources inventory, maps and records; operates, maintains, and supervises the operation and maintenance of a variety of specialized vector control tools, equipment, and vehicles; responsible for inventory of vector control equipment and materials, and general supplies; enforces health codes pertaining to vector control; plans, provides, supervises and evaluates training of lower level classifications; prepares and compiles monthly reports; and assists with budget preparation.

# **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

Knowledge Level: T = Thorough; G = General; --= Not Applicable

Classification Level: A = Vector Control Technician Aide

I = Vector Control Technician I
 II = Vector Control Technician II
 III = Vector Control Technician III
 IV = Vector Control Technician IV

## Knowledge of:

## <u>A I II III IV</u>

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G	G	T	T	T	Vector prevention and control methods and techniques including source reduction, biological control, and chemical control.
G	G	T	T	T	Vector control equipment, vehicle operation and safety practices.
G	G	T	T	T	Pesticide mixing formulas and procedures for mixing, loading and using pesticides.
G	G	T	T	T	Vector impacts on the health and well being of people.
G	G	T	T	T	Life cycles and habitats of common vectors.
G	G	T	T	T	Arithmetic.
	G	T	T	T	Pesticide application equipment calibration.
	G	T	T	T	Complaint response and investigation methods.
		G	T	T	Federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to vector control.
		G	G	T	County geographical areas.
		G	G	T	Surveillance principles as they relate to vector control.
			G	T	Supervision and training principles.
				G	Basic statistics.
				G	Inventory control practices.
				G	Mapping techniques.
				G	Land uses and practices.
				G	The General Management System in principle and practice.

### Skills and Abilities to:

The following apply to all classes:

- Judiciously spray, treat and bait to control vectors.
- Read, interpret, use, and explain to others, policies, procedures, rules, regulations, and instructions.
- Read, interpret and enforce laws and regulations relating to vector prevention and control.
- Identify common vectors in the field.
- Select appropriate source reduction methods.
- Operate and maintain vector control tools, vehicles and equipment.
- Mix chemicals, prepare traps and baits according to label specifications and established standards.
- Keep field notes, records and maps, and prepare reports.
- Communicate clearly and effectively, both orally and in writing.
- Practice safety techniques and use good judgment in the use of vector control materials.
- Oversee the activities of lower level classifications with respect to pesticide uses.

# **Vector Control Technician III (in addition to the above):**

- Lead a crew of staff on special projects and difficult tasks.
- Train staff in vector control activities.

# **Vector Control Technician IV (in addition to the above):**

- Plan, organize and evaluate vector prevention and control activities.
- Assign, direct, review and evaluate the work of staff.
- Develop and implement effective training programs.
- Evaluate sensitive issues and situations and resolve with sensitivity and tact.

# **EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE:**

Education, training, and/or experience which demonstrates the knowledge, skills and abilities stated above. Examples of qualifying education/experience are:

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#### **Vector Control Technician Aide/Vector Control Technician I:**

- 1. An Associate's degree in biological or environmental health sciences, or equivalent academic course work; OR,
- 2. A high school diploma or equivalent; AND, one (1) year of full-time, paid experience in controlling mosquito, vertebrate and invertebrate vectors.

### **Vector Control Technician II:**

- An Associate's degree in biological or environmental health sciences, or equivalent academic course work; AND, one (1) year of experience as a Vector Control Technician I, or comparable experience, provided that the experience was obtained as a California Department of Health Services Certified Vector Control Technician in Mosquito Control and Terrestrial Invertebrate Vector Control or Vertebrate Vector Control and Terrestrial Invertebrate Vector Control; OR,
- 2. A high school diploma or equivalent; AND, two (2) years of full-time, paid experience in controlling mosquito, vertebrate and invertebrate vectors.

### **Vector Control Technician III:**

- 1. An Associate's degree in biological or environmental health sciences, or equivalent academic course work; AND, three (3) years of experience as a Vector Control Technician or comparable experience, two (2) years of which must be at the journey level of Vector Control Technician II, provided that the experience was obtained as a California Department of Health Services fully certified Vector Control Technician; OR,
- 2. A high school diploma or equivalent; AND, four (4) years of the experience described above, 2 years of which must be at the level of Vector Control Technician II.

# **Vector Control Technician IV:**

- 1. An Associate's degree in biological or environmental health sciences, or equivalent academic course work; AND, four (4) years of experience as a fully certified Vector Control Technician by the State of California Department of Health Services, two (2) years of which must be at a lead or supervisory level; OR,
- 2. A high school diploma or equivalent; AND, five (5) years of the experience described above, two (2) years of which must be at a lead or supervisory level.

A Bachelor's degree in biological sciences or a closely related field is highly desirable and, may be substituted for one (1) year of the required experience for Vector Control Technician III and IV.

# SPECIAL NOTES, LICENSES, OR REQUIREMENTS:

# **License:**

A valid California Class C driver's license is required at time of appointment or the ability to arrange transportation for field travel. Employees in this class may be required to use their own personal vehicle.

#### **Certification:**

# Vector Control Technician Aide:

Incumbents in this class are expected to apply for and obtain State certification in the areas of Mosquito Control, Terrestrial Invertebrate Vector Control, and Vertebrate Vector Control within two (2) years of the date of employment as

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Vector Control Technician Aide or be subject to termination from County service. Failure to maintain active (unlimited) vector control certifications at all times will result in separation from County service. See California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Section 30055 for certification requirements.

## Vector Control Technician I:

Valid (unlimited) California Certification in Mosquito Control and Terrestrial Invertebrate Vector Control, or Vertebrate Vector Control and Terrestrial Invertebrate Vector Control is required prior to appointment. Incumbents who are certified

in only two areas of certification are expected to complete the remaining (third) area of certification within one (1) year of the date of employment as Vector Control Technician I or be subject to termination from County service. Failure to maintain active vector control certifications at all times will result in separation from County service. See California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Section 30055 for certification.

# Vector Control Technician II, III, and IV:

Valid (unlimited) California Certification in Mosquito Control, Terrestrial Invertebrate Vector Control, and Vertebrate Vector Control is required prior to appointment. Failure to maintain active vector control certifications at all times will result in separation from County service. See California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Section 30055 for certification requirements.

#### Age:

California Code of Regulations, Title 3, Article 2, Section 6722 requires that in order to mix and load toxic chemicals, employees must be at least 18 years old.

## **Working Conditions:**

Incumbents may be exposed to hazardous gases and chemicals, vectors and vector-borne diseases, rough terrain, inclement weather conditions, vicious animals, poisonous plants and animals, and may deal with irate or hostile individuals. Positions in this class are subject to emergency call on a 24-hour basis.

# **Physical Requirements:**

Incumbents must be physically able to perform manual labor, lift weights in excess of 50 pounds, walk long distances, and traverse rough terrain.

## **Probationary Period:**

### Vector Control Technician II, III and IV:

Incumbents appointed to permanent positions in these classes shall serve a probationary period of twelve months (Civil Service Rule 4.2.5).